

Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

1. (currently amended) A method for efficiently exploiting an upstream channel bandwidth of full-duplex connection between a user and data network comprising:

a) providing a coordination center for ~~tracking~~ registering the location of data entities distributed among users over said data network;

b) ~~receiving~~ downloading one or more data entities from said network by at least one user, and e) storing said data entity on a storage device of said at least one user for a predetermined period of time for further use; and

c) registering the location(s) of the downloaded data entities in said coordination center;

d) whenever said coordination center receives from one or more of other users one or more requests for said downloaded data entities, redirecting said other users to said location(s); and

d) e) re-transmitting said ~~received~~ downloaded data entities to said other users, through said upstream channel bandwidth of said at least one user

wherein,

~~whenever said coordination center of said network receives from one or more of said other users one or more requests for said received data entities, said coordination center points to the corresponding user(s) from which said requested data entities can be obtained, and causes the requested data entities to be re-transmitted to the requesting other user(s).~~

2. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the re-transmission of said received data to said other users is carried out during download time.

3. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the re-transmission of said received data to said other users is carried out after downloading is completed.

4. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, comprising:

- a) receiving said data by said user;
- b) storing said received data on said user's computer system; and
- c) re-transmitting said data from the user's location to said other users through said upstream channel bandwidth in response to a request or according to pre-defined operation instructions.

5. (original) A method according to claim 1, comprising:

- a) receiving data on said user's computer system;
- b) causing said received data to be re-transmitted through said upstream channel bandwidth from said user to a first group of one or more other users;
- c) causing said received data to be re-transmitted through said upstream channel bandwidth from said first group of users to a further group of one or more other users; and
- d) repeating step (c) for all said users requesting the same said data.

6. (original) A method according to claim 5, wherein said data is transmitted to said user from a plurality of other users.

7. (original) A method according to claim 5, wherein the transmission of data from a user to one or more other user(s) is carried out with delay.

8. (original) A method according to claim 1, comprising:
 - a) receiving data on said user's computer system;
 - b) re-transmitting said received data through said upstream channel bandwidth to a dedicated server for storage; and
 - c) retrieving said stored data from said dedicated server for other purposes.

9. (currently amended) A system for managing data flow in a data network, comprising:

- a) a coordination center for tracking registering the location of data entities distributed among users over said data network;
- b) a plurality of users having computer means connected to said data network via a full-duplex connection, each one of the computer means of said plurality of users comprising, or being coupled to, memory means for storing received one or more of said data entities downloaded to said computer means; and
- c) software and/or hardware means for:
 - c1) receiving one or more requests from one or more of other users for said downloaded data entities;
 - c2) redirecting said other users to said location(s); and
 - c3) re-transmitting received said downloaded data entities from the computer of each user via the upstream channel bandwidth of said user its full duplex connection to other users that are connected to said network;

wherein,

~~whenever said coordination center of said network receives from one or more of said other users one or more requests for said received data entities, said coordination center points to the corresponding user(s) from which said requested data entities~~

~~ean be obtained, and causes the requested data entities to be re-transmitted to the requesting other user(s).~~

10. (original) A system according to claim 9, wherein the coordination center comprises storage means and software/hardware component for storing information related to the data passed through the network and for data retrieval.

11. (original) A system according to claim 9, wherein the users are provided with software/hardware components, suitable to re-transmit the data received in said user's computer to the other users on the network according to instruction from the coordination center or according to pre-defined operation instructions.

12. (original) A system according to claim 9, wherein the users are provided with software/hardware components suitable to send information to the coordination center representative of the upstream bandwidth available, and of the contents stored in the memory means associated with the user's computer, that are available for retransmission.

Claim 13 (canceled).